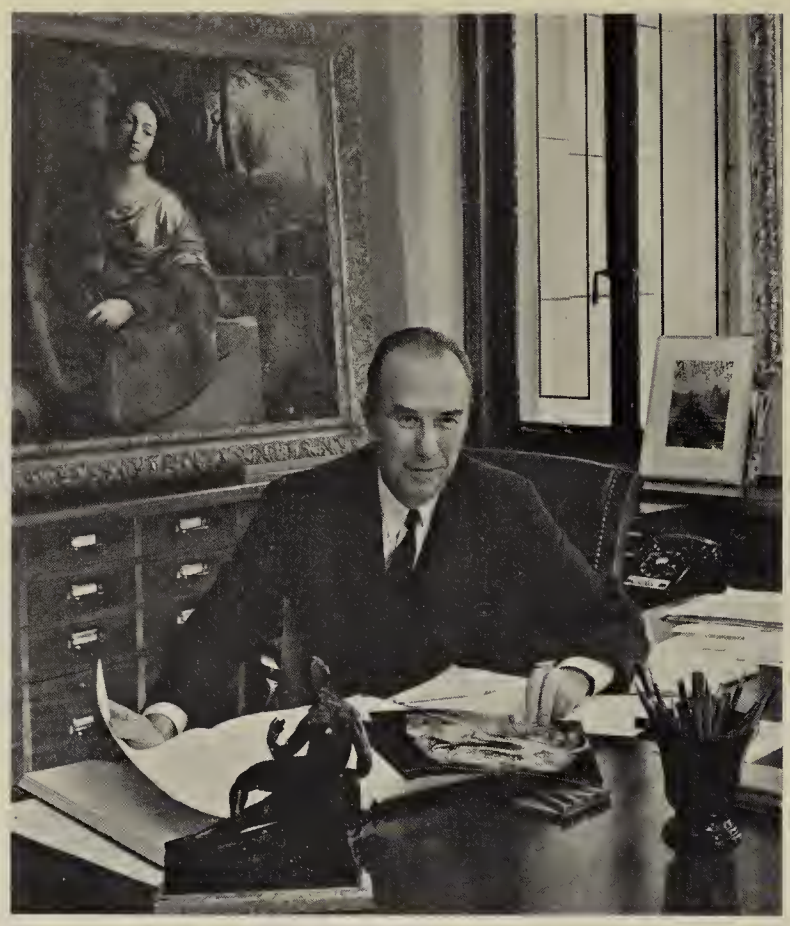
Museum News

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

SUMMER 1968



WELCOME

This booklet is devoted to Toledo's Museum, a community center for the arts, and how people use it. Through picture and word we will take you through the galleries, the classrooms, the concert hall, and into some of the offices. You will see people enjoying the Museum, making it part of their lives.

The Museum belongs to everyone and exists for your enjoyment. May we welcome you and extend to you an invitation to discover the joy of becoming part of The Toledo Museum of Art.

Otto Wittmann, Director

Museum News
THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
TOLEDO, OHIO

SUMMER 1968
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FINDING YOUR WAY THROUGH THE MUSEUM . . .

Finding your way through The Toledo Museum of Art is a pleasure. From gallery to gallery there are thousands of new discoveries awaiting you. From the minute the doors open in early morning until they are finally closed in the evening, visitors are continually entering the Museum to explore and enjoy the collections.

All kinds of people come to the Museum — families and sight-seers, school children and scholars. They come for a variety of reasons — to enjoy the many masterpieces of art in the galleries, to attend a class, to listen to a concert, to do research, or just to relax.

Every year the Museum welcomes an average of well over 450,000 visitors, one of the highest per capita attendance figures of any museum in the country.

LOOKING . . .

The basic reason for a museum's existence is to offer an opportunity to learn through observation of great works of art. The Museum brings together, under one roof, objects from many cultures from the distant past to the present. A step through a gallery threshold can span hundreds of years and take the viewer's eyes thousands of miles.

In a museum the young can find wonder. They can see that history is something more than words on a textbook page. Here is the past and the present for them to see.

Museums are meant for people. Museums challenge the imagination and delight the eye. Museums are fun!

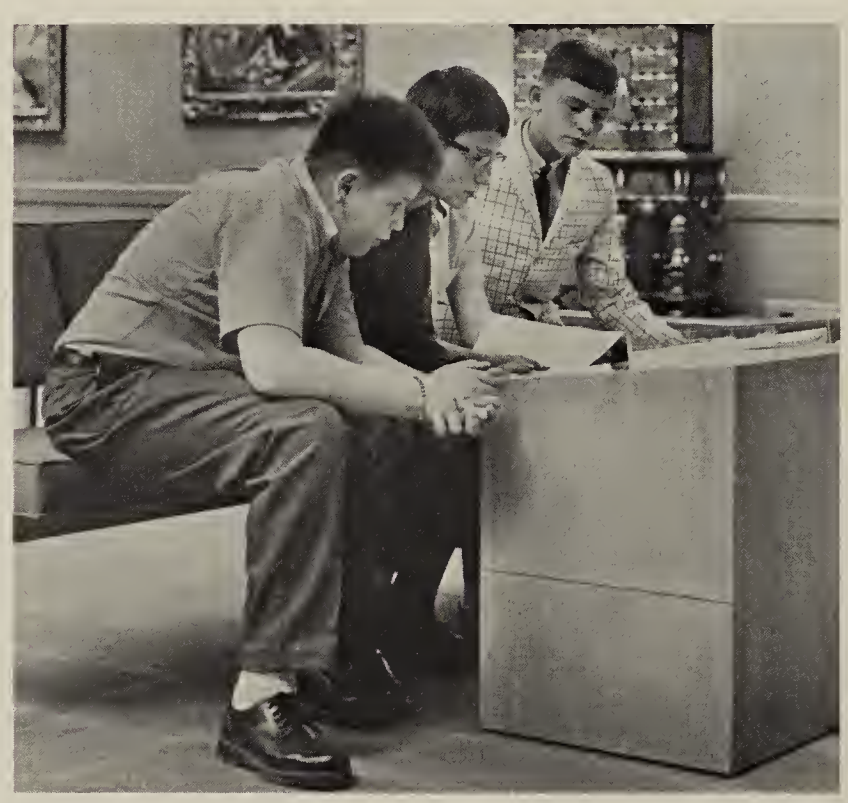
Toledo's Museum expands our horizons. We are carried beyond our own city to every corner of the globe. We can study the craftsmanship of an artist who worked hundreds, even thousands of years ago, and through his art, discover a distant moment in time. Seeing for ourselves, becoming involved in the art of the Museum, is a challenge which fascinates old and young alike.

LISTENING . . .

There are many sounds within the Museum. Museum lecturers speak to varied groups in the galleries. Each group has a special interest. More than 2,000 classes from Toledo regional public and parochial schools visit the Museum each year. Each class has a special subject. School classes study the collection with a trained Museum instructor, able to help them to see and understand more.

If you come alone or with a few friends, you may prefer to see the Museum by yourself. Throughout the galleries you will find printed leaflets describing the works of art and their importance. With a press of a button on the Museum's electronic Art-A-Facts you listen to a brief discussion of the works of art before you. You can learn when and where the art was created, what it represents and why it is significant.

Music is also part of Toledo's Museum. It comes from the Museum's beautiful concert hall, the Peristyle, and also from the chamber-music concerts in the Great Gallery. World famous orchestras and soloists as well as Toledo's own musical organizations all perform in the Museum, making it a great community center for the arts.



LEARNING . . .

Art and music sparks the imagination. The works of art in the galleries not only tell about other times, but also provide encouragement for today. During most of the year the Museum's school is very busy. Students either from the University of Toledo, the city's offices or homes, put an afternoon or evening to good use.

The Museum's School of Design provides instruction in the fine arts and art history for students enrolled in the College of Education planning to become art teachers, or students enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences planning to follow a career in art. Over one hundred students at the University are majoring in art and art history. At the Museum they study the fundamentals of art, the techniques of drawing and painting, materials of the printmaker, the sculptor, the potter and the vast history of art from its primitive beginnings to the present.

Adults, likewise, come to the Museum's classes for the enrichment that can be added to their lives.

People have learned that Toledo's Museum need not be reserved for special occasions, but is a place which they can enjoy and use every day. Through its collections, its art and music courses, its concerts and its auxiliary services — such as the Information Center and Record Lending Library, people find they can add exciting new dimensions to their lives.

Saturdays are reserved for children. Over 2,500 of them eagerly spend part of their Saturdays in the Museum. They begin in the third grade and continue through junior high school. They study a great variety of subjects in art and music. They may wish to study painting, drawing, design, architecture or art history, or they may decide they want to learn more about musical instruments and great musicians. They meet children of their own age who are also interested in the arts. By participating in class they learn to express themselves through the art they create while acquiring new confidence and increased self-determination.

The Children's Saturday Program was the first of its kind in the world, and today it is internationally recognized for its progressive attitude of bringing children and art together in the Museum's environment. The Museum was also a pioneer in the attention and encouragement it gave to the stimulation of creative glass craftsmanship. This renaissance in the long history of glass artistry has now spread throughout the nation. Establishment of *Toledo Glass National* as a biennial competitive exhibition for artists working in glass brings to Toledo and the nation the latest developments in this new movement.

THINKING . . .

The Museum must provide the atmosphere in which you can peacefully contemplate the triumphs of the past and relate them to your future aspirations.

The Museum is more than a building whose outside walls enclose three acres of ground area and contain seven million cubic feet of space.

The Museum is the understanding and pleasure which comes to you when absorbing the beauty of all the great works of art.

The process of enjoying and understanding the Museum goes on every day. It may start with a mother showing her daughter how Holland appeared at the time when Rembrandt painted 300 years ago. It may continue with University students discovering more about life in Spain through the art of El Greco, or creating art themselves in a Museum studio. It includes the satisfaction which an ardent collector of American glass may find in comparing his latest treasure with one in the Museum's extensive collections.

The Art Reference Library holds over 20,000 volumes and subscribes to over 250 different periodicals, all concerned with art. This library also has a collection of almost 35,000 slides used by Museum instructors for their many classroom and gallery lectures.

THE TALENTS OF MANY . . .

Today the Museum has almost a hundred full-time and part-time employees, all working together so that the Art Museum can continue to be a place of enjoyment for everyone. The Museum staff concerns itself with preserving great works of art, presenting them to their best advantage, collecting new examples when they are available and explaining their significance to all who wish to visit the Museum.

Of course it takes many different people . . . curators, administrators, accountants, librarians, instructors, secretaries, telephone operators, carpenters, printers, guards, maintenance personnel and others. Each Museum event, each special exhibition, each Museum publication, each new course of instruction receives thoughtful and thorough consideration.

The Museum presents three concert series, in which some of the world's finest performing artists appear. In addition, the Museum's Peristyle is used by many other Toledo organizations for concerts, operas, and ballet programs.

Regardless of the performance . . . whether it be a concert by a distinquished symphony orchestra or a Sunday afternoon recital by a Toledo musician . . . Museum personnel have been at work long before, so that the program will be a success. For every event there is months of ticket processing and handling, unloading of instruments from large vans, setting up the stage, checking the lights, stationing ushers and attendants, and preparing the program for distribution . . . all these necessary tasks performed by members of the Museum staff.

Each installation requires special attention. New cases are often necessary and a new acquisition may mean that special facilities must be constructed.

The Museum's priceless collection is expertly cared for by the curatorial staff. They direct the Museum's preservation and restoration work. They conduct thorough research on the artists represented in the Museum collection and the individual works of art. Often visitors will bring to the Museum an object on which they want an expert opinion. Perhaps they just found it in their attic or they may have seen it at an auction and just couldn't resist. In any case, they want to learn more about their new possession.

Increasing attention is necessary to preserve the Museum's physical plant, the oldest part of which was built in 1912.

The Museum grounds including the park across Monroe Street covers almost 12 acres. There are bushes to trim, trees to care for, sidewalks to keep clean and snow to clear. The landscaping around the Museum has provided beauty and tranquility amidst the constant traffic of a busy industrial city.

The Museum represents permanence . . . a legacy from the past . . . a responsibility of the present generation to preserve for the future. The very success of the Museum, the fact that the public wants and uses its many services, has meant that costs of operation have been increasing constantly. Increased funds must be obtained so that this great cultural resource may be accessible and a source of inspiration to future generations.

The Toledo Museum of Art

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Tuesdays through Saturdays 9 A.M to 5 P.M./Sundays, Mondays, Holidays 1 P.M. to 5 P.M.

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THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
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